

SECRET

20 September 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: SR/RP

SUBJECT : Information received from a young U. S. citizen who spent several weeks in the Soviet Union in the summer of 1963.

(See 10 Sept.
Orig Report)

1. In Kiev, Source, who is of Ukrainian parentage, met many young Soviet Ukrainian writers, most of whom were members of the Creative Youth Club, Suchasnyk. During one of Source's meetings with the group of writers in the home of a Soviet Ukrainian literary critic, Source listened to tape-recorded poetry written by the critic's colleagues and which had as yet not been published anywhere. The Source said most of the young writers live under rather miserable conditions. They told the Source that Soviet authorities use "material pressures" against them and frequently refuse to publish their works. Two young poets told the Source that they were on one occasion summoned by the KGB and shown articles published about them in a Ukrainian emigre publication and reminded that this was a "nationalist" publication.

2. The source met two Soviet Ukrainians in Kiev who said they were members of a Club of Ukrainian Terrorists. They said they also were in contact with members of the Creative Youth Club but considered the latter club inferior to their organization. Contrary to the more cultural activities of the Creative Youth Club, Ukrainian Terrorists Club advocates direct revolutionary action. One of the two Soviets told the Source during a second meeting that his colleague had been summoned to the KGB and instructed to meet with the Source again and to submit to them as much information as he could obtain about the Source. This second meeting with the Source did take place the following day.

3. The young writers with whom the Source talked told her that in January 1963, there were 300 Ukrainian engineers arrested and reportedly tried in June 1963. They said nobody seemed to know definitely whether the trial took place and what the charges against the engineers were. They complained to the Source about the lack of Western press reports about such incidents and promised to compile for the Source a list of individuals who recently disappeared. The Source, however, never did receive the list.

4. Source was told that recently about 70 or more Ukrainian lawyers were arrested for trying to arrange for a necessary majority in the Supreme Soviet of the UkSSR in Kiev to vote for secession of the Ukraine from the Soviet Union, based on Article 17 of the Soviet Constitution. No other details were given to the Source.

5. An elderly Soviet male, who introduced himself to Source as a Ukrainian civilian officer engaged in an activity having to do with submarines, ^{told Source} that before Castro's return to Cuba from the Soviet Union, he was "presented" with two submarines.

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The Soviet asked the Source to convey this information to appropriate authorities in the United States and to warn them not to trust Khrushchev's "peaceful courting".

6. The Young writers with whom the Source had contact said that the attack against Soviet colonialism made by Mr. Diefenbaker at the United Nations was a topic of general public and private discussions in the Ukraine. It not only boosted Ukrainian spirits but resulted in a "remarkable relaxation" by the Soviet regime in many fields.

7. The source heard many complaints from the Ukrainian writers with whom she talked about the fact that Western tourists who come to the Ukraine do not bring Ukrainian literature from abroad. They told the Source that they considered the "progressive" press published in the West, and to which they have easy access, as very dull and suggested that it be improved via the "smuggling in" of anti-Russian elements into the ranks of its writers. On this occasion, they mentioned that Soviet authorities in the Ukraine recently forbid deliveries from Poland of the Ukrainian-language newspaper, Nashe Slovo (Our Word), which is the organ of the USKT (Ukrainian Socio-Cultural Society) in Poland.

[Chief, SR/CA]

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